

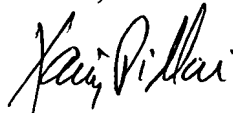
REMARKS

The specification has been amended to include a reference to the PCT international application. The specification also has been amended at pages 6 and 11 to remove translator's remarks. Claim 16 (second occurrence) has been renumbered as claim 17 to remove the obvious typographical error. Claims 3-17 have been amended to remove multiple dependencies. Claims 14-15 have been amended to improve the style. New claims, claims 18-21, have been added and are directed to embodiments of the invention. The claims are supported by the original claims and the specification. No new matter has been added.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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